

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice.

16 A method of selling a quantity of electrical energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first participant to a database display;
- (b) connecting a second participant to the database display;
- (c) displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy;
- (d) consummating a transaction between the participants for the quantity of electrical energy; and
- (e) curtailing the transaction between the participants.

17. A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first participant to a database display;
- (b) connecting a second participant to the database display;
- (c) displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy; and
- (d) displaying a reliability indicator associated with any offer to sell electric energy.

18. A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first participant to a database display;
- (b) connecting a second participant to the database display;
- (c) displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy for next hour offers;
- (d) displaying the next hour offers during the current hour; and
- (e) stopping the consummation of next hour transactions at a predetermined time during the current hour.

Please add the following new claims:

19. A method for facilitating the trading of units of electrical energy in a data processing system, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

- (a) receiving an offer to buy a quantity of units;
- (b) receiving an offer to sell a quantity of units;
- (c) storing a list of transaction conditions wherein said list comprises:
 - (i) a parameter associated with a quantity of units that can be physically delivered;
 - (ii) a parameter associated with a contractual agreement; and
- (d) facilitating a trade transaction for units of electrical energy if transaction conditions are satisfied.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising:

- (e) curtailing the trade transaction between transaction participants.

21. The method of claim 19 further comprising:

- (e) computing a performance index associated with the trade transaction.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein computing the performance index for the trade transaction is based upon a performance index associated with a buyer, a seller, or a wheeler.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein a performance index for a party to a transaction is based upon historical transaction data.

24. The method of claim 19 further comprising:

- (e) determining a path of delivery of said units through a wheeler for said trade transactions.

25. The method of claim 19 further comprising:

- (e) informing a buyer and a seller of a consummation of the trade transaction.